

*NCA Self Study*  
*Criterion 4 Documents*

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Eastern Illinois University

Year 2014

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Dean Assessment Report Feedback

Robert Augustine

This paper is posted at The Keep.

[http://thekeep.eiu.edu/eiunca\\_assessment\\_docs/16](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/eiunca_assessment_docs/16)

**EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL  
OFFICE OF THE DEAN**

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TO: Gail Richard, Chair, Communication Disorders & Sciences  
Tina Veale, Graduate Coordinator, Communication Disorders & Sciences

RE: Assessment Results Documented by the Graduate School  
Master of Science in Communication Disorders & Sciences

DATE: January 6, 2009

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Review of the Master of Science in Communication Disorders & Sciences 2007-2008 Assessment Plan by the Graduate School documented sustained achievement in fostering advanced scholarship to improve student learning in all areas identified by the Council on Graduate Studies. These included depth of knowledge, critical thinking and problem solving, oral and written communication, and research/creative activity. The program's work in assessment remains exemplary and reflects its First Choice Designation.

**Depth of Knowledge (Primarily Objective 1)**

The program uses comprehensive direct and indirect measures for both formative and summative assessment purposes. Formative assessments directly address weakness and offer opportunities to improve student learning while students matriculate. Summative assessments verify students meet the program's learning expectations and are ready for certification and licensure exams that are required for practice. Feedback on recent curriculum revisions allow for four on-campus semesters (so candidates begin in a summer term) without extending the program to a 3<sup>rd</sup> year offer positive views the changes were effective. The impressive use of assessment data reflects the program's First Choice designation and it was the recipient of a Provost's Award for assessment.

**Critical Thinking and Problem Solving (Primarily Objective 2)**

These areas are comprehensively assessed using both direct and indirect measures also in formative and summative formats. The internships continue to offer strong evidence the program is meeting and exceeding its standards for critical thinking and problem solving during clinical practice. Feedback from site supervisors ratings are extremely impressive and verify effective achievement of this critical area for the program.

**Oral and Written Communication (Primarily Objective 4)**

Numerous assessments include course projects, exams, practicum experience, internships, and exit interviews. Evidence from these sources indicated students met or exceeded the established expectations. Scores on written communication continue to reflect the First Choice designation of this program as these are extremely impressive evaluations.

**Advanced Scholarship through Research/Creative Activity (Primarily Objective 3)**

Assessment tools included professional presentations, awards, and thesis completion rates. Targeted expectations continue to significantly exceed expectations across measures.

C: Dean Hanner  
Dr. Sanders, CASA Director